

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DOHA 00104 280939Z

22

ACTION USIE-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CU-02 CPR-01 SY-05 NASA-01

DODE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 PA-01

PRS-01 SS-15 /044 W

----- 062400

O 280913Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY DOHA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1214

INFO USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

C O N F I E N T I A L DOHA 0104

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OEXC ASEC OVIP

SUBJ: POSSIBLE CANCELLATION OF ASTRONAUTS VISIT TO QATAR

REF: STATE 20624, STATE 20674, DOHA 0089, DOHA 0103

1. GOQ WOULD, OF COURSE, BE VERY DISAPPOINTED BY CANCELLATION OF OR INDEFINITE DELAY IN ASTRONAUT EL BAZ VISIT, PARTICULARLY SINCE IT SPECIALLY PERSONALIZED BY EL BAZ'S CLOSE CONNECTIONS HERE. HOWEVER, QATARIS DO UNDERSTAND THAT SUCH THINGS HAPPEN, AND WE DO NOT ANTICIPATE ANY PARTICULAR PR DIFFICULTIES UNLESS DOHA WERE DROPPED FROM ITINERARY BUT ASTRONAUTS SHOWED UP ELSEWHERE IN AREA. THERE WOULD NATURALLY HAVE TO BE A PLAUSIBLE REASON FOR NO SHOW, WHETHER TRUE OR FALSE.

2. AS DEPARTMENT AWARE, WE HAVE ALREADY WORKED OUT TENTATIVE PROGRAM WITH GOQ. IN ADDITION, LOCAL PRESS JAN 22 CARRIED FRONT PAGE STORY ANNOUNCING ASTRONAUT VISIT. STORY ATTRIBUTED TO KAZEM OF QATAR UNIVERSITY, WHO COORDINATING VISIT FROM QATAR U SIDE.

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3. IF VISIT IS TO BE ABORTED, IT MOST IMPORTANT THAT WORD TO GOQ COME THROUGH THIS EMBASSY. EL BAZ STAYS IN DIRECT CONTACT WITH KAZEM BY CABLE AND PHONE. WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF EL BAZ WERE ADVISED TO CHANNEL HIS COMMUNICATIONS THROUGH DEPT TO AVOID ANY MISUNDERSTANDINGS OR CROSSED WIRES. IT ESSENTIAL IF VISIT CANCELLED OR POSTPONED INDEFINITELY THAT EMBASSY AND EL BAZ TELL SAME STORY TO GOQ.

4. WOULD LIKE TO KNOW IF POSSIBLE CANCELLATION OF ASTRONAUT VISIT IS RELATED TO SECURITY PROBLEM OUTLINED IN STATE 20674. DOHA 0103 CONVEYS EMBASSY'S SECURITY ASSESSMENT FOR ASTRONAUT VISIT.

5. WOULD APPRECIATE BEING INFORMED SOONEST WHETHER ASTRONAUTS' VISIT ON OR OFF.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ASTRONAUTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: SmithRJ
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976DOHA00104
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760032-0349
From: DOHA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760115/aaaaamhs.tel
Line Count: 77
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION USIE
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 20624, 76 STATE 20674, 76 DOHA 89, 76 DOHA 103
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: SmithRJ
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 JUN 2004 by buchant0>; APPROVED <28 SEP 2004 by SmithRJ>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POSSIBLE CANCELLATION OF ASTRONAUTS VISIT TO QATAR
TAGS: ASEC, OVIP, OEXC, QA, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006